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John Carlyle to George Washington, June 28, 1754, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.

FROM COLONEL JOHN CARLYLE.

ALEXANDRIA June 28 1754

DR. SIR —

I recd both your favours by Wm Jinkins & am sorry you have so just Grounds for Complaints from My Deputys & the persons I engage with but particularly with Mr Gist & Mr Croghan, the Latter as he's with you I am In hopes you'l oblige him to make good his Agreements & the former has promised to do all he can hereafter. —

Your men have reason to complain by not been paid regularly but I am not In fault, I have got but 1800£ of my own Warrent & not one penny of Col Frys yett. So may judge Whether I can pay them fully or not, however I have sent up the Bearer Mr Wood with what cash I can spare & have Desired him to Settle with each Captain for his Company & to bring me Regular Muster Roales Which hope you'l order to be done he has My Soldiers Ledger & by that My Accts. may be settled & when I gett the Money from below Shall Settle with them wholly.

The men that went out with you Should be paid but Col Muses Division & Capt Lewis Compr. was pd. the first to the I May & the Latter to the II & I am In hopes before their 2 months is out to be Inabled to pay them off.

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I have 300 Shirts 500 pr. Stockings & 100 pr. Shoes & abt Fifty Red Coats Coming up In the Next Wagons for Such of the men as have not Supplyd themselves.

What you mention In Relation to paying the Regiment, In Answer If you are Appointed, I Suppose you must have Sum one here to Gett your money [mutilated] Williamsburg & to Settle with the Comitte, Col Fry 1 & I had agreed I was to gett the [mutilated] & Send it up to him & he to over Look the payment with Every Captain & we was to Devide what Comission the Comitte thinks proper to Allow for the Service which I Expect had he Lived would been 5 perCt. but what it will be now I know not as I dare say they would given him more Than any other man —

I am this day setting of for Col Loyds & Philadelphia for money, never was man so duned as I am turn what Way I Will Still I have demands upon me & my Supplys are So Short & uncertain that I dont know what to doe —

Mr Wood will Inform you of the News that the New York forces are here Also 2 Companys of Col Innasses² Regiment the former Will March on Tuesday next they would go on Sooner but their Commander is Very III —

All the Nessarys you Write for Shall be sent you next week except those already Sent & am with Comp.n to All Ye Officers Dr. Sir

Yr Very Affectionet H Sert. JOHN CARLYLE.

1 The death of Colonel Fry was considered an essential loss to the service. He was born in Somersetshire, England, and educated at Oxford. Excelling in the mathematical sciences, he was at one time Professor of Mathematics in the College of William and Mary; and, after resigning that station, he was member of the House of Burgesses, and otherwise employed in public affairs, particularly in running the boundary line at the westward between Virginia and North Carolina. In concert with Peter Jefferson he made a map of Virginia, which had much repute. By these employments he had gained such a knowledge of the interior country as, with other qualifications, pointed him out for this command. He was one of the commissioners from the government of Virginia for making a treaty with the Indians at Logstown, June, 1752. In a notice of him written at the time, it is said, "He was a man of so clear a head, so mild a temper, and so good a heart, that he never failed to engage the love and esteem of all who knew, or were concerned with him, and he died universally lamented."—SPARKS.

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Colonel Joshua Fry was the officer in command of the entire expedition, and was on his way to join Washington with a force of about one hundred and fifty men. While on the road to Will's Creek his horse stumbled and threw him to the ground with great force, whereby he sustained fatal injuries. The wounded officer was conveyed as tenderly as possible to Will's Creek, where he was made as comfortable as his condition would permit. Dr. James Craik, the surgeon of the regiment, a Scotchman by birth, was with him, and attended him faithfully, but all to no purpose, and on the 31st of May, only a few days after the accident, Colonel Fry died, and his remains were buried on the side of the hill. The death of Colonel Fry left Washington in full command, and the force at Will's Creck marched forward to Great Meadows at once.—LOWDERMILK.